

Welcome to Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument! This unit of the National Park Service was established in 1937 to preserve and protect a representative sample of the Sonoran Desert ecosystem. We protect one part of one of the largest wilderness areas in the United States and are considered an International Biosphere Reserve by the United Nations. This place is a treasure waiting for your discovery.

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We can help you get started at the Kris Eggle Visitor Center, which is located at milepost 75.2 and is open daily, except federal holidays during the summer. Maps, restrooms, information, exhibits, a bookstore, and orientation programs are available.

You can head out on one of Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument's two scenic drives. Both are graded dirt roads designed for standard passenger vehicles. The 21-mile Ajo Mountain Drive is a one-way road that winds its way up into the foothills of the Ajo Mountains and back down again. There is a guide book available for purchase in the Kris Eggle Visitor Center bookstore. The Puerto Blanco Drive is a shorter two-way drive with a picnic area and beautiful views out across the Valley of the Ajo. Trailers and vehicles over 25 ft in length are not recommended on either scenic drive, due to the twisting and adventurous nature of the roads.

The Monument has an \$8 per vehicle entrance fee, which is good for seven days. Annual passes including America the Beautiful, Golden Age, Senior and Access passports are honored. There is no charge for vehicles passing through on Highway #85 or for people who decide to stop into the Kris Eggle Visitor Center to check it out. You are most welcome here.

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Camping is available in Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument on a first come, first served basis. The main Twin Peaks campground accommodates tents, trailers, and motorhomes up to 40 ft in length with slide-outs. Most sites are pull-through. There are no hookups at the sites, however, potable water and restrooms with flush facilities are available throughout the campground. A sanitary dump station is located at the south end of the campground.

Camping is \$12 per night and we honor the discount given to Golden Age, Senior or Golden Access pass holders. Camping fees are in addition to the Monument entrance fee. The campground registration station is open January through March. At all other times campers may register at the Kris Eggle Visitor Center.

The Alamo Canyon campground is also available for primitive camping. Water is not available in this campground, however picnic tables, charcoal grills, and a pit toilet are. This secluded campground is designed for tents, though small camper vans or small pick up campers are welcome. RVs, trailers and generators are not permitted in order to preserve the primitive nature of the area. There are only 4 sites, and they fill up quickly. Registration must be done in person at the Kris Eggle Visitor Center on the first day of your intended overnight stay. Reservations may not be made in advance.

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Please be aware that the Monument does experience some illegal activity related to our proximity to the international border. For your safety, be aware of your surroundings at all times. When leaving your vehicle, stow valuables out of sight and lock your vehicle. Do not pick up hitchhikers. If you see a person in need of assistance or you would like to report suspicious behavior, please notify the rangers at the Kris Eggle Visitor Center or the Border Patrol. This is the best way to assist everyone in need.

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Other areas of the monument are closed due to dynamic nature of security concerns along the international border. These closures are subject to change as activity changes. Please check with staff at the Kris Eggle Visitor Center for most current closure conditions.

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Please let our friendly staff help you plan your visit to one of the world's most unique and beautiful deserts. From driving our scenic drives to hiking along our beautiful trails, or climbing to the top of Mount Ajo, this place is a treasure and we are glad you are here. Enjoy your stay. There is beauty here to be explored and discovered in Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument.

Thank you for listening to TIS KOJ 793.

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